

The City Mission Work.

The city mission work, in which all should be interested, both in and out of the churches, is now in very successful operation and bids fair to become, in the future, even a greater power for good.

A few days before December the ladies of the Honolulu Board of Missions, realizing the great need of work in their own doors among our white population, and while waiting for a foreign missionary used their surplus funds to this purpose.

Mrs Anna J. Brees, who was at this time doing much good work in this direction on her own responsibility, was chosen by the board, as one who possessed the essential qualities of missionary, and sent forth to commence the city work.

The home mission up to March 1882 was very successful and full of interest. At this time the foreign mission board transferred their field of work to Micronesia, and, at the request of Fort Street Church the home mission work was relegated to this organization. When Mrs Brees was first entrusted upon her work much time was spent in calling upon strangers, visiting the sick and aiding any who might be in need of assistance. Many of these strangers who have come among us have been far more in need than the public have known; and those principally relieved, either by gifts or loans of money, have been a good class of people who through misfortune or lack of work have found themselves in a strange land with no means of livelihood. It has been through the generosity of citizens of Honolulu who are well known, aided by other strangers, that such have been assisted until they have risen over the worst and at last have been provided with work. Incurable invalids have been found in back places shut off from the sunshine and beauty of life and its every comfort; these have had their physical wants relieved in a systematic manner through the good work of the mission until their souls were forth saved and exalted to a higher faith given them in their hour of greatest need. Among other noble acts performed by the mission it is a great pleasure to state that several young children just budding into life have been rescued from the slums of the city, from worse than a living death, and placed in schools or in good families.

Work came so directly to the hands of Mrs Brees that it became necessary to establish a system of evangelical labor. She therefore organized several societies, which are now in successful operation, for the elevation of the masses; for she believes more largely in preventive than in remedial measures. One important branch of Miss Brees' work is the Young People's Christian Temperance Union, which was organized by her, September 4, 1883. This society is composed mostly of young people from twelve to twenty years of age, and at present numbers about 130 regular members, all in good standing. The pledge taken by the members prohibits the use of all intoxicating drinks and tobacco, as well as the habit of swearing. It is a live society, as the nature and object of its entertainment held last March proved, when the V. C. A. building was nearly half filled with its star members.

The large number of small children, being for admission made an auxiliary society necessary. This has been recently organized and meets Tuesday evenings of each week while the larger society meets every Tuesday evening. The society has so far collected a nice library of about 200 volumes, most of which have been generously donated by a few citizens of this place.

Miss Brees' good work has been largely carried out among the young men in Honolulu who have drifted here from every land and have no home influences around them. Realizing the temptations which these young men were subject to, when far from home and friends away in this side of the sea, and feeling their need of the happy influences of social life to guard them from the fatal trappings to which mankind are prone, the strangers societies were started. During the year past these societies have been held every Friday evening, and have now become a regular organization under the direction of officers and committees. At these societies a good share of the evening is consumed in a musical and literary entertainment. They are at present, however, only held every two weeks, probably owing to the fact that Miss Brees has been made president of the Young People's Christian Endeavor Society which was organized by the Rev. Mr. Cruzan, and holds its meetings on alternate Friday evenings with the Stranger's Society. Any young man or stranger in Honolulu will find a warm welcome at these societies; all that is required for admission being a good moral character. On all other evenings during the week, except Friday and Sunday, Miss Brees' rooms on Nuuanu street will find a warm welcome at these societies; all that is required for admission being a good moral character.

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Estimate—Crop—
1880-81 1881-82
Cuba— 100,000,000 60,000,000
France— 100,000,000 100,000,000
Austria & Poland— 50,000,000 40,000,000
Russia and Poland— 50,000,000 40,000,000
Belgium— 20,000,000 30,000,000
Holland— 10,000,000 20,000,000

Total— 300,000,000 300,000,000

The German bounty, which was in the nature of a rebate on the quantity exported, amounted to 40c per cent, but notwithstanding that this has been reduced to 25c, and prices show a decline of fully 20 per cent, the area of cultivation has been increased, and the new crop promises a still greater yield than the last.

The result of the large production of beet sugar has necessarily been to diminish the consumption of cane sugar in Europe, and the loss of so important a market has reacted directly upon cane producing countries, causing the stagnation and depression now witnessed. With respect to the United States, which, in recent years has been one of the largest con-

sument of cane sugars, although showing an increased consumption during the past five months of over twenty-five per cent, as compared with last year, the supply of raw material, as well as refined products, has been in excess of the demand, and, accordingly, prices have declined, as shown above, to a point, so far as the record goes, has only once before been known in the history of the trade, and yet the end does not appear to have been reached. The financial distress in Cuba causes a continual pressure to sell, and, as it appears to be not much of a question of price, as the necessity of turning the stuff into money to meet the charges of what it is already weighed, it seems almost inevitable that the necessities of importation planters must resort in establishing still lower prices. It is noteworthy, however, that while during the early months of the current year local refiners found it profitable to supply no small portion of their requirements by purchases of European beet sugar, cane sugar is now relatively cheaper in the market and purchases of beet have entirely ceased. Furthermore, refiners in this country have given their stability to compete successfully in foreign markets, as witnessed by the heavy exports of refined sugar since January 1st to the United Kingdom. Notwithstanding these advantages, however, the sugar trade has not proved profitable to either importers or refiners, and the operations of the year thus far show mixed encouraging results. To what extent low prices will affect the future price of cane sugar it is impossible now to form a reliable estimate. That less will be grown in Cuba and many other of the West Indies seems only a natural consequence of the existing condition of affairs, but whether this will not be compensated for by increased production of beet is a likely contingency. Fortunately for Louisiana planters the bulk of the last crop was marketed before sugar became demonized, but the outlook at present is not an encouraging one for the crop that is now growing and will reach maturity in November next. New York Shipping and Exchange.

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